But the Monopoly Contrived by Abdullah of Samarra Was in Peril When in an Incautious Moment He Sold Hades to a Stranger for the Sum of Five Liras.

The oil trust or the steel trust, the sugar combine or a corner in wheat or beef may seem a huge affair to one outside of Wall street, and even the Wall Street broker believes them to be the most powerful concerns in the history of the world. As mighty as they are they are but slight things, of trifling importance, when compared with a monopoly which is controlled by a half civilized Arab.

The Arab is not a frequenter of Wall Street; it is doubtful if he has ever heard its name. Of stocks and bonds he knows nothing; the financial news of the daily papers he never reads; the rise and fall of the market affects him in no way, and a

stock exchange he has never seen. Only once or twice in all his life has he left his little native village, and then he wandered as a humble pilgrim to the sacred city of Mecca. He lives in no sumptuous palace; to attend him are no clerks or servants other than a half naked cook, whose principal occupation is to bring him frequent sips of black coffee and fresh coals to light his long narghile.

His office is the obscure chamber where he sits by day and sleeps by night, yet he controls a monopoly of the greatest importance to millions of Moslem people, and in omparison with which the name of Standard Oil is insignificant.

Abdullah is the name of this marvellous financier, and his home is in the little town of Samarra, on the Tigris River, two days north of the famous city of Bagdad. Here, squatting upon a straw mat, which is spread on the floor, with a reed pen, a bottle of ink, a dish of sand to serve as a blotter and an impressive seal lying at his side, he transacts his own business. He is the president, the board of directors, the secretary, the treasurer, the clerk, the porter and office boy all in one.

A generation ago Abdullah was a struggling Moslem priest, and, like many of his fellows, was endowed with a greater amount of cunning than piety. His religious duties brought him an exceedingly small income but an abundance of time, which he industriously employed in devising ways and means to increase his revenue. The fact that he became the world's greatest monopolist is evidence of his ability.

Samarra, though far from Mecca and the other sacred cities, is on the pilgrim route from all northern Mesopotamia and Persia. To the vast companies of passing pilgrims, as they paused on their long journey for a day's rest, Abdullah announced that he had received a special revelation.

According to the revelation, no one, bowever pious, however many times he had made the pilgrimage to Mecca, not even though he had killed a Christian in battle, could be sure of entering Paradise unless he possessed a title to some of its sacred soil. The announcement was startling, but to the pious pilgrims it was true beyond a doubt; a priest had said it.

The news of the revelation spread over the desert with a surprising rapidity and crowds flocked to Abdullah to learn how they might obtain some of the celestial real estate. To the inquiring bands he showed complicated maps and plans which none could understand, and then explained that if one would escape the flames of Hades it was well to pray, better to make the pilgrimmage to Mecca, but the best and surest way of all was to purchase a title deed to a building lot in Heaven. He alone had been commissioned by Allah to sell to all of the Faithful who came.

Thus the monopoly started, and Ab was busy from morning till night writing the deeds. For all who came a parcel of Paradise was selected and defined, and its deed was quickly prepared, sealed with an impressive seal and delivered for the consideration of a substantial fee.

Some desired a corner lot; others, less endowed with worldly goods, were contented with a less conspicuous location; while those who were too poor to purchase so large a tract of land might obtain standing room for a smaller sum. Even the beggar could be sure of entering Paradise if he possessed of the heavenly soil enough for the resting place of a foot.

Had the poorest of the pilgrims reflected how they might be compelled to spend all eternity standing upon one leg, with no place to rest the other, Abdullah's business would not have increased, but the monopolist was safe; the Moslem pilgrims never think of thinking.

The prices charged for a lot in Paradise waried exceedingly. No one could tell exactly how Abdullah regulated the charges; that was a part of the revelation, but to an outside observer it seemed that the appearance of the customer, the amount of money he displayed, his eagerness to purchase and other considerations known only to Abdullah regulated the price.

For a corner lot, if the customer were wealthy, the price was never less than five Turkish liras (\$22), but it was the duty of a good Moslem never to bar any from the way to Paradise for the want of a single lira or a few piasters, so others received deeds exactly defining the location of the land, its dimensions and boundaries, in perfect accordance with the law. No one was too poor to purchase; no one, unless the price which he could pay was less than the cost of the paper of the deed, went away in disappointment.

Abdullah's business rapidly increased, for as the pilgrims far and wide saw the deeds of their friends they hastened to purchase a bit of Heaven before it should all be sold. One day when there seemed to be a lull in the trade and Abdullah sat long in the real estate office a stranger entered and asked if be could purchase a deed of Hades.

The shrewd Abdullah, with an eye to business, immediately replied in the affirma- | sure them of Paradise: tive, and though wondering why any one should desire to own a part of the place of eternal fire asked how large a tract of land was desired. The stranger said that real estate there should be cheap, yet if by Allah, so he says, to convey a corner a deed for all of Hades could be given him he would willingly pay five liras all the or even a bit of the celestial soil where money he possessed-for it.

Abdullah agreed to the proposition and hastily recording the transaction gave the stranger a paper duly signed and sealed and conveying to him the entire region known as Hades.

The stranger left the office of the heavenly feal estate magnat; and with the paper in his hand waited upon the slope of the hill upon which the village stands for a party of approaching pilgrims.

"Whither?" he asked after the customary salutations had been exchanged.

"To the house of the priest Abdullah," was the reply. "Why?" asked the possessor of Hades.
"To purchase for us a place in Paradise,"

"Allah forbid," ejaculated the stranger. "It is no longer necessary."

The pilgrims paused to gaze with con-

"It is no longer necessary," repeated the stranger, holding out the deed of Hades so that the impressive seal was visible. The seal, for it was surely that of the priest, caught their attention, and again they paused "What is that?" they asked.

The stranger briefly explained that but moment before he had purchased all of Hades, and that he should reserve it for himself alone. From that time forth every Moslem, whether faithful or unfaithful, must go to Paradise, for Hades was his, and he would permit none to enter there. The amazed pilgrims gazed blankly at

one another and then at the deed which the speaker held before them. One took it, looked at it and then at the back of the paper. Neither he nor any of the party could read, yet they pressed about it, each took it and finally, with doubt still upon their faces, handed it back.

"I will read it to you," said the stranger, and as he read doubt began to disappear. "Wallah wa billah!" ejaculated one when the reading was finished. "He speaks the

"He truly does," said another, and the party looked with compassion upon the man who had foolishly purchased Hades, and who alone would suffer its eternal tortures.

"Truly it is no longer necessary to purchase a deed of Abdullah," finally said one of the pilgrims, fondly caressing the coin which had been destined for the priest's treasury, and as the truth gradually dawned upon the others they climbed the hill, not to Abdullah's house, but to the han for

seemed dull that day, and finally between the sips of coffee and the puffs of smoke he reflected that since he had sold the deed of Hades no customers had come.

The hours of the day wore on and still he was alone. Finally the sun set, and poking his feet into his heavy shoes he went to the han for his usual evening smoke. There the pilgrims were collected in numbers as great as ever, and as he saw

them he marvelled that business had been so dull. They seemed to be talking excitedly to one another, and straining his ears to listen he heard one pilgrim relate to another how Hades had been sold to a stranger and that it was no longer necessary to purchase a place in Paradise.

As the words came to him he could hardly believe his ears, and realizing that his business was at an end cold shudders raced through his fat body. Finally reviving sufficiently he joined in the conversation and acknowledged that Hades had been sold, yet he argued that one could never be sure of going to Paradise if he held no title to a place there. His words were unheeded, and it soon became evident that with the sale of Hades he no longer had a monopoly upon Paradise.

All the next day and the day after, and the day after that, he sat alone in his office; not a purchaser appeared. A week passed before he recovered sufficiently to set his wits actively at work to recover the industry which had netted him so handsome and steady a profit.

He searched throughout the town for the stranger, but no one knew where he was. Day after day the search was continued with the same result, and the priest, though he had already reaped a fortune, was

Finally one morning a month after the fatal transaction the stranger entered Abdullah's office and silently squatted upon the floor before him.

"I have heard that you are inquiring

purchased Hades and that in the flames. forever barred from Paradise, you must spend eternity. I called upon you that I might relieve you of the horrible fate, and like the honest priest of Allah that I am, I will return to you the five liras."

As he finished speaking he untied the knot at the end of his girdle, and counting out the money held it toward his guest. The owner of Hades, with his eyes upon the floor, sat motionless as if he did not see the proffered gold.

It was a flerce battle which Abdullah and his guest waged that day. The sun set and darkness came before it was finished. Abdullah the monopolist was not the victor.

To regain the title of Hades he added one lira to the original number, then two, then five, but to no purpose. He groaned and raved; he flattered and swore; he called down the blessings of Allah upon his obstinate guest, alternating them with divine curses and threats of eternal fire, but the proprietor of Hades was unmoved.

The price Abdullah offered rose from fifteen to twenty, then to twenty-five. fifty and a hundred, not by leaps, but by slow climbing from one point to another Nor did the rise stop there. When the sun was two hours above the horizon it had reached the thousand mark; at sunset it had gone to five thousand, and the guest still sat calmly waiting for the figures to rise higher.

It was well into the night when even he became fatigued, and to end the long fight he demanded ten thousand liras for the paper which he had purchased a month

ago for ten. The old priest expostulated, but to no purpose. He begged, but his pleadings fell upon deaf ears. Security for the money was given, and the stranger, chuckling aloud, disappeared into the darkness

of the street. Abdullah soon recovered his composure The next morning at daybreak he was sitting among the pilgrims of the han, waving before their astonished eyes the deed for Hades. He read it to them and explained that more than ever a title to a bit of celestial real estate alone could as-

Convinced, they reluctantly renewed their purchases, and the priest's business slowly returned. Now again he is a monopolist the only man in all the world commissioned lot, or an inside lot, or only standing room one may rest the tip of his toe, to all who

bring a consideration. The prices which he charges are slightly in advance of what they were, but he explains that the demand is greater, and that though advanced they are so small that all profits are eliminated.

> Punishment for Eloping. From the Kansas City Star.

When she was 18 years old, in Moberly, Mo. Mrs. Omio Hanna ran away from her home, came to Kansas City and married William Hanna, a butcher. That was five years ago, and they parted after living together about a

Mrs. Hanna asked Judge Park in the Circuit Mrs. Hanna asked Judge Park in the Circuit Court to grant her a divorce.

"You eloped, did you?" the Judge asked.

"Yes." said the woman.

"Well. I'll give you another year to be sorry for disobeying the will of your parents." the Judge said. "Come back a year from now, and if you are good in the meantime I will grant you a divorce."

The suit was not contested.

The Bachelor's New Year Revery. weetheart, I never knew I loved you so." Of leve's exquisiteness and light and glow. Bloom there again upon the malden face. The treasury of years gives back to him The jewels and the gems of love's regulte; And through the misty tears that come to dim His eyes he looks upon the old delight.

Sighed he: "Sweetheart, forever, ever mine The cuckoo echoed in the shady grove: "Forever and forever, and for aye!" He kissed her lips, and passed the treasure The cuckoo murmurs from the coppice dark

The leaves fall cluttering upon the walk; But slience, only slience comes to mock. Kisses the face as chill as chillest stone, And puts the old daguerreotype away. HORACE SETMOUR KELLER.

Dawn the Harvester.

The purple sky has blanched to blue With freaks and streaks of rose and fawa, While on the rolling meads of sea Gleam the gold footsteps of the dawn.

What harvest, think you, he will find

Upon that boundless beryl plain Only the liltes of the foam!

CLINTON SCOLLARD. The Model and the Chief. A dry goods model fell in love one day With an Indian chief standing over the way She loved that chief with a passion so great That her sufferings were hard to contemplate But from her position she couldn't stir, And the indian chief couldn't come to her. They gazed at each other with rapturous glance But beyond those looks they couldn't advance. She thought he ought to be the first to come. But she couldn't say so, for she was dumb. He wished, of course, to get over the way. But had, perforce, on his stand to stay. But 'twas just as well that they kept apart, For the chief had got a tobacco heart; While she, though she loved him as best she could, Had a heart that was merely made of wood!

And you'll find it isn't beyond belief There are mortals like the model and chief! LA TOUCHE HANCOCK.

There's not a ship puts out of port that has not known our skill: There's not a rivet, boit or nut that grew not from our will,

From hightop galiant masts and stays, down to
her mighty keel,
She is our child, who tells our strength, a child of
Steam and Steel.

The crane that waits with pulsing heart to break her cargo free:
The gate that guards her from the tide, that holds
the seeking sea;
The panting, shunting, throbbing trains that bear
her goods awneel—

The ratiling, clauging pumps that with man hunting waters cope:
The fans that keep the thick air sweet; the wired lights that gleam—
Are the proud children of our loins, the Sons of Sicel and Steam.

The levelled guns that hold the Land: the ships that watch the Sea;
The deadly, hidden, lurking mines that guard each The shell that fills each magazine; the guardian These wardens of an Island's shores are Sons of Steel and Steam.

The power that whirls the swaying belt, coercing cach machine;
That drives the peaceful textile mill or stealthy submarine;
The power that ploughs, and sows, and reaps, and grinds in studied scheme—
Is the proud power that marks our hour, the power of Steel and Steam.

The Cowboy's Homegoing. From the Denver Republican.

In my dreams every night I can see him,
As pink and as sweet as a rose:
With his hands lined across with deep dimples
(Those hands can clutch heartstrings, God know
I can hear that small voice at the hearthside,
And can see that fair head, o'er its toy:
Small wonder I'm packin' and cinchin'—
I want to get back to the boy.

The others are off for the cowtown,
And hell will be raised there to night:
But the music and lights that I'm seekin'
Will give a more lastin' delight:
It's the light that shines out of the cabin,
And makes bright the pataway to joy,
And the music's the glad cry of "Daddy"...
I want to get back to the boy.

Twenty knots, and a call for more.
And the ladders ring to the running feet—
Down, down, down to the black iron floor,
Down to a world of furious heat
Where nothing matters but coal and steam,
And men who work for a spell and swoon
Think of the cool night wind and the gleam
On the deck of a pale half moon.

Slice and feed, and a climb to the main For a minute's smoke and a glimpse of the four hours sleep and back again. To clear the clinkered furnace bars—Back again to the cones of light, The flying shovels, the white hot glare, And if a stoker faints to night, Well, the Admiral, he won't care.

Below the glistening water line
He works in a heat that blights and clings,
But he sometimes shouts a joke to his mate,
And sometimes, even, sings;
And if one day his heart gives out,
Pulling, and pushing the sileing rod.
Three rounds of blank, and a prayer or two,
And a quiet grave, thank God.

The Departing Year.

Out of the old year's house
We are going now,
Down the path of the fallen leaf
And the bare, bleak bough.

One long last look at the rooms, Now still as a mouse, A tear for the hopes that stay In the old year's house!

From the Milipaukee Sentinel As older and older I grow,
And waning I find is my sight,
I am gradually coming to know
That it's best to slack up in the fight.
And I find, as the years keep a-creeping
And my age is what many call ripe,
That I care more for dozing and sleeping
And the pleasure I get from my pipe.

I care not for dreaming romantic.
For that passed away with my youth:
I have naught of the manner pedantic.
My tongue I keep silent, forsooth.
Let youngsters just turned out of college
Bear the palm. I was once of their type.
But now I don't prate of my knowledge.
I cogitate here with my pipe.

Is whitening fast o'er the brow.

And he gets easy going and mellow—
A diff'rence 'twixt Then and the Now!
I plue not, nor am I regretful
For lost hopes—I'm not of that stripe—
And when I get restless and fretful,
It's me to my chummy old pipe!

This Virtuous Season. Resolved that Jones this coming year Tobacco shall forswear. And when he takes his walks abroad Less costly raiment wear.

Shall poker games abjure, And on his homeward path shall steer A course both straight and sure. Resolved that Brown shall run no debts But live within his means, Nor when the Great White Way shines forth

Look in upon its scenes. Resolved that while the others seek Perfection more and more That I myself shall plug along Exactly as before. MCLANDSTRON WILCON.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS. I find it stated as among the real benefits of the French Revolution that freedom was given to the Cagots. Who or what are they?

J. B. CRAMBERS.

The most complete discussion of the history of these very obscure unfortunates of seigneura France is contained in the not readily accessible Histoire des Races Maudites de la France et de "Espagne," by Francisque Xavier Michel (Parts Hopeless confusion exists as to the etymology of their name, which appears as Agot and Cagot in Gascony, sometimes as Caffot in Béarn and Navarre, as Gabet, Gabet and Caffet in Guyyane. and these unfortunates, victims of a barbarous prejudice; if they sought the church their only entrance might be through a specially reserved door, one such still preserved in the Templar church at Luz is hardly large enough for a dog to crawl through; priests refused them confession and the holy water was poured for them into a bowl which no one else would touch; only with diff-ficulty could they follow any of the rites of religion: access to the courts was practically interdicted to them, and seven witnesses of their own sort were not sufficient to offset the unsupported statement of one free man. To save the path from the con-tamination of their flesh they were forbidden to go barefoot, and as a warning sign their garments bore a crowfoot patch of red. They lived by them-selves in secluded cabins, the only trades permitted them were those of the carpenter and the pitsawyer, the survivors of the Visigoths conquered by Clovis at Voulilé, others again a remnant of the Saracens secluded in the Pyrenees after Charles Martel broke their advance into the Midl, yet others find in them the descendants of the Crusaders who brought back the taint of leprosy. Their speech was a jargon rudely borrowed from their neigh-bors with a few elements which have not been identified, yet they were celebrated for loquacity Goltre and cretinism are common, and a round and lobeless ear is sufficiently frequent to serve as a distinctive mark. Although raised to citizen exist in large numbers in the valleys of the Pyre nees, especially in Lucion. Efforts were made in the eighteenth century to remove their political disabilities, notably in the parliaments of Bretagne. of Bordeaux and of Navarre, but it was not 1793 that the revolution enfranchised them. Simi lar outcast races, somewhat resembling sedentary gypales, were the Caqueux of Bretagne; the Colli-berts of Maine, Poltou and Anjou; the Marrons of

I have found in an assortment of old prints a copper plate of the west front of a Gothic church, a singularly beautiful façade in the richest style of that order and one quite unknown to me. The print is in poor condition, lacking all the lower edge where the title and names of the artists should appear. On the upper margin there is a legend which I translate To the good God. Master Robert. Can you identify the church and Master Robert and the plate in general? R. H. WEBS.

The plate is not recognizable from the description, but the rest of the identification is made absorbed Robert. It is the west facade of the cathedra of Amiens, one of the noblest monuments of Gothic architecture and singular in the fact that it was practically finished on the plans of its designer and within the generation which saw it Le Bon Dieu is the central figure in the tympanum of the central portal, a composition of great beauty little worn by the lapse of time and very free o the results of malice of the !conoclast. Maitre the only instance in which the name of one of the great Gothic builders has been preserved with the work of his hands. Robert de Luzarches, so called from his birthplace in l'Ile de France century. Some historians have held that Philippe Augustus employed Mattre Robert in the em him to work upon Notre Dame, but this lacks positive confirmation. It is definitely known nowever, that Maitre Robert drew the plans for Amieus and was engaged upon that work until his death. The work was finished, up to the spires, by Thomas de Cormont and his son Renault,

Two veteran readers of THE SUN discussing old times in New York disagreed as to where the paper was published fifty years ago and who was its editor. One claimed the office was at the corner of Fulton and Nassau streets, the other said it was on Park How near Frankfort street and that Moses Y. Beach was the editor. Please clucidate and make two veterans happy.

1. F. CONWAY.

The first copy of THE SUN was published Sepember 3, 1883, at 222 William street. It remained here until August, 1835, when it was removed to 156 Nassau street at the corner of Spruce. In the summer of 1842 this building was sold and the paper was moved to the southwest corner of Fulton and Nassau streets, which was its home for a quarter of a century. In 1867 the Tammany Hall property was bought and the paper removed to its present abode. In 1856 the property was in the possession of Moses S. Beach. The editorial history down to his owner-ship may be briefly summed up: Benjamin H. Day, September 3, 1833; Benjamin H. Day and M. Y. Beach & Sons, October 22, 1845; Beach Brothers (Moses S. and Alfred E.), December 4, 1848; Moses S. Beach, April 6, 1852. A careful history of the early days of THE SUN was published in the issue for the first number which is so frequently discovered as the original first number, yet which may infallibly be detected by examining the date line on the editorial page which gives the year as 1833 in the reprint, whereas the original through the error of

Did the Pope grant Napoleon Bonaparte a di-orce from his wife Josephine?

PETER J. ELIOT.

The divorce, a civil act of the Empire, was pronounced before the grand council held in the Tuil-eries on December 15, 1809, and the next day a decree of the Senate confirmed it. When the nego-tiations for the Russian marriage halted and the Austrian alliance was proceeding to a successful issue the religious validity of a purely civil divorce by legislative process arose for consideration. To remove all religious scruples the court of the Bishop of Paris met and pronounced the marriage with Josephine null, this action being taken on January 14. 1810. The civil marriage of Bonaparte and Maria Louisa of Austria, April 1, 1810, was witnessed by the College of Cardinals, save only two who were too infirm to be brought to Paris. The attitude of the Church was manifest at the religious marriage Not a Cardinal was present, although they said that their absence was an empty form due only to the circumstance that Plus VII. had not sanctioned

Is there any rule other than usage which will permit the saying "a friend of mine" rather than "my friend" or "a friend to me"? BANCROFT. Most of us are content to regard usage as the best warrant for good English. For such as require to have good English bolstered up by the ceptions and the note to the exception and the footnote to that in turn will be found most tedlously set forth in Goold Brown's "Grammar of English Grammars." After puzzling out his polemics one may then be content to recognize that "my friend" and "a friend to me" do not in any way replace "a friend of mipe" because they quite fail to ex-

Did Grover Cleveland run for three terms for the Presidency of the United States? A. E. R. The care with which the word terms is doubly underscored in red shows that particular stress is in some way set upon that word. Mr. Cleveland never ran for a third term; he ran twice for candidate and twice President. Washington set the custom against a third term in the Presi-dency: there exists no custom against a third candidacy; in fact, multiple candidacy seems to be quite within the bounds of possibility.

What is the average age of the dog and of the

The statement has been made that horses average from 20 to 30 years of life and dogs from 12 to 14 years. A French encyclopædist credits the horse with 30 to 40 years, the dog with 20 to 24. There is a sufficient range of uncertainty in these ngures to admit of doubt that detailed study has that as a true republic we are doomed. een made of the subject.

Commodore Dewey lost not a single man, and but few were wounded and that slightly. The Span

ish loss was between 300 and 400 killed and twice as many wounded. It appears on the record of history as the only engagement in which one fleet was annihilated without the loss of a man on the other When was David Warfield, the actor, born? Charles E. Parsons. November 28, 1866, in San Francisco.

rings." Whittler's "Snow Bound" has this v
There, too, our elder sister piled
Her evening task the stand beside;
A full, rich nature, free to trust,
Truthful and almost sternly just,
Impulsive, earnest, prompt to act
And make her generous thought a fact,
Keeping with many a light disguise
The secret of self-sacrifice.
O heart sore tried, thou hast the best
That Heaven itself could give thee—re
Rest from all bitter thoughts and things.
How many a poor one's blessing want
With thee beneath the low green tent
Whose curtain never outward swings!

POLITICAL NOTES. One of the late President Harrison's favorite

It was Gen. Harrison's way of speaking of what politicians seem to fear more than anything, the fickleness of public opinion. This topic came up for discussion the other night at the Arlington in Washington, and

"Most of my friends believe that politicians dig their own political graves. Rivals and factional adversaries and the newspapers help somewhat, but it is almost a standard saying that the downfall of politicians is almost entirely to their own conduct and their own menta lity.

are frequently hurt by stupid and selfish associates and friends whose opinions on policies and public sentiment aren't worth a stiver. Others become heady over sudden and great prominence and run down steep places like the pigs in the Bible.

strong and buoyant over night and gone in the morning." The Department of Commerce and Labor

Live stock.
Farm implements.
Manufacturing machinery, &c.
Gold and sliver coits and buillon.
Hallroads and equipments.
Shipping, street railways, water works.

New York with \$14,710,000,000 and Pennsylvania with \$11,473,000,000, with other front rank States as follows: Illinois, \$8,816,000,000, Ohio, \$5,800,000,000; Massachusetts, \$4,956. 000,000; California, \$4,115,000,000, and lowa, \$4,048,000,000. Five States each possess more than \$3,000,000,000 — Missouri, Minnesota, Michigan, New Jersey and Indiana. The braska have each in excess of \$2,000,000,000.

The Hon, E. Prentiss Bailey, editor of the Observer of Utica, N. Y., speaking of the reported saying of Edward H. Harriman that he "will spend \$10,000,000 to rehabilitate Odell," rises

his breast can wish for success with two such butchers one in finance and one in politics in the lead?"

Some politicians say that the prosperity of the country "is the stoutest foe to yellow journalism."

An lowa politician married his mother-inlaw the other day. Two members of President Roosevelt's

George Bruce Cortelyou. "No medicine known to man will cure a case of big head," said David Bennett Hill at the Hoffman House the other day, speaking

of a particularly heady politician.

Senator Smoot has served four of the six years of his term pending the decision as to

written the following lines: KNOCKING

RNOCKING.

I don't believe in knockin'.
For a knock's a sort o' boost.
That makes your luck go flockin'.
To another fellow's roost.
I don't believe in "roastin'".
Any thing or any one:
It only ends in toastin'
Things till they are over done.

Day, September 3, 1833; Benjamin H. Day and owns a home at 41 Kilsyth road, Brookline, George W. Wisner, January 2, 1834; Benjamin Mass., where his wife and two daughters His reason for making his home in a place so far removed from that of his duties s that his children may obtain the benefits of a New England school education.

> honorary societies and clubs of his alma mater were dominated by the sons of wealth and that the less wealthy students had no Sample of the secret police of the French

Archaic is a pet word with President Roose-

Representative John Wesley Gaines of Tennessee has unearthed an old bill of 1856 which provides that all members of the House shall be "docked" \$13.70 for each day they are not present at the session. The law has never been amended or repealed, and if enforced now would make things unpleasant for a platoon of members. The question is asked, why shouldn't an employee of the people earn his money like employees of business institutions?

A discussion has broken out as to who was the more accomplished and effective woman political orator in the United States Anna Dickinson or Mary Elizabeth Lease. Both were employed by Republican national committees to make campaign speeches, and both were "born orators." Miss Dickinson was always a Republican, while Mrs Lease was originally a Populist, being known first as the Joan of Arc of the People's Alliance and it was through her speeches that the famous John J. Ingalls was defeated for reelection to the United States Senate. Dickinson was a school teacher, and Mrs. Lease was admitted to the bar of Kansas. Mrs. Lease is a graduate of St. Elizabeth's Academy, Allegany county, N. Y.

A New England hard shell Democrat writes that he is very gloomy over the political outook. He adds:

'Ours was intended to be the best Govern ment on earth, but is fast becoming perverted, and unless a hange comes will be destroyed like the republics of the past. I am afraid the eternal, I say that the money power does rule this country, and unless we return to the first principles of true democracy our goose is cooked.

Among lawyers there is a saying that in the trial of a case an attorney, if light is to on facts, must be heavy on law. The other mel in the trial of a case an attorney, if light on facts, must be heavy on law. The other day an attorney was preparing to leave his cards, to be scored with the four kings and queens, office in one of the big office buildings to go why does he object to carrying out the same to the court house to try a case. From the principle in the case of five trumps? shelves of his library he had taken many large law books containing decisions and opinions of higher courts. At intervals a boy went in and out of the door and each time he bore in his arms a stack of the books, which he carried to an express wagon that stood in the street below. The attorney was to

in the street below. The attorney was to use the books in the court room.

Another lawyer, who is of Southern birth and who always addresses his friends with some army title, watched the boy as he went in and out carrying the law books. Then he dug his hands deep into his trousers pockets and said to the lawyer;

"Well, Ah'll sweah, Kunnel, you must have be case at all."

J. B. G. says: In two hand. A leads and B wins the first trick, laying down the four kings and queens, for which he wants to score 240. Is to is correct?

No. In two hand only one meld can be scored at a time and he will have to win five tricks to score the whole 220.

D. A. McM. says: A lays down all four kings

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INSTRUCTION

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SCHOOL FOR CARDPLAYERS.

Bridge, E. M. R. says. Is the defensive spade and by the dealer now considered his best policy when he is without a trick in his hand? Calculation and experience have led the authorities to advise the dealer not to pass it when he defence, but in order to retain the confidence of partner, so that when he does pass it, the dummy hand himself in order to make an expensive declara tion. The defensive make need not always be spades, however, as there are a number of cases

in which clubs, or even a red suit, have been shown by calculation to be better than weak spades. L. F. P. says: Playing three hand, the dealer passes it. The rule is that the third hand shall sort dummy's cards and declare, before looking at his own hand. He finds these cards in dummy HE. C A K J 9; D 10; S. A K Q 9 8 6 5. What should be declared.

The rule for three hand is that dummy cannot make it no trump unless he holds three accs, and that if he has not three aces he must make it the ongest suit. Two suits being equal in length he must declare the stronger, the valuation being arrived at by counting the pips on the cards; reckoning the aces as 11, court cards as 10 each and all others at their face value. If this is still equal the more expensive suit must be declared. Under this rule the hand given would have to be a spade.

G. T. wants to know what pivot bridge is, and how to play it.

The game is an ordinary rubber, but instead of cutting for partners each time one player sits still as a pivot for the others to move upon, and the three other players go round him, keeping their relative position with regard to one another. pose Z is the pivot and Y his partner, A on his left and B on his right. After the rubber is ended A walks round behind Z's chair and takes B's place. B pushes Y into A's place, and the positions are correct for the second game. After three moves the dealer will have had each man for a partner, and the opposing partnerships will have been through all the changes possible with four players.

with each five to make a run of three, which is nine holes. Each of these runs counts afteen, which is six more, and the three fives themselves make a nfteen, two more: so that the hand is worth twenty

Cribbage. J. A. B. wants to know how to count hand of two fives, a four and a six, with a five

If the three fives are arranged in a triangle it is

evident that each of the sides will make a pair; that is, six holes. The four and six will combine

enforcement.

Robert H. Fuller, Gov. Hughea's secretary.

S. S. says: Only three cards remain to be played in four hand. A plays a seven, B a four and C an other four. What is C's pegging? Fifteen two, a pair and last card: five holes. F. W. S. says: In three hand A plays an eight, B a seven and C a nine. The fifteen and the run are both pegged. A says "go" and B plays another seven, for which he pegs five holes. A disputes the run of three.

There is no run, because if the cards are gone over in the order in which they fell it will be found seven B must have an eight, and to get back to the eight he has to pass a duplicate seven, which stops the run. B pegs two holes only for the thirty one.

T. H. says: In four hand three of the players say "go." The fourth man has two cards which he can play. Is he obliged to play the one that will bring the count nearer to thirty one; that is, his higher card, or can he play which he pleases? He may play which card he pleases. It is often a matter of nice judgment to know which card to keep if the adversaries still have cards for the next H. J. says: Two of us are playing and B tells me or on when the count is twenty seven. When he

to go when the count is twenty seven. When he plays his last card it is a trey. What remedy have I for his telling me to go when he could still play himself without passing thirty-one?

The player in error forfelts two points and you can make him take back the cards to the point at which the error occurred, if you like, and have them played over again correctly. Ties for Prizes—S. B. says: We have four prizes for winners on a card machine. Three men have tack high straight flushes. Three others have ten high straight flushes. Then comes an eight high and a six high. Who gets the prizes, and how should we settle it?

It is assumed, although not so stated, that the four prizes are of graded values, the first prize being the most valuable of all. It is then clear that three men have tied for the first three prizes, and they must settle between themselves, either by throwing dice or cutting the cards, or another turn at the machine, which takes first prize, which second and which third. This leaves the fourth prize to be settled in the same way by deciding the tie between the three men who have ten high straight flushes. The winner of the playoff takes The players with eight high and six high were

Poker—S. E. P. says: A opens a lack pot. Several come in and draw cards against A. A bets, and all drop but G, who raises the limit. A cells him and G shows two sixes only; but on showing his own hand it is found that A had not openers.

G takes it if A admits his error. E. M. G. says: If a player picks up six cards after pot has been opened, can he pay the price to come n and take a fresh hand of five cards? No. His hand is dead.

E. M. says: The opener splits his pair and announces it. He fails to fill his flush. A bets that as he has failed to till and no longer has openers he has no further interest in the pot. The opener bets he has. It is not stated how the other players knew that

Pinochie. B. L. objects to the decision that the trump sequence can be melded for 100 in three or four hand, and says that he has played the game for twenty years and scored only 150 for it. He adds that he grants that six different combinations in declaring 240 is permissible in three hand, because there is a combination of six separate and specific scores; 80 kings, 60 queens, 40 trumps and three marriages.

apondent. If that is the kind of pinochle B. L. has played for twenty years, scoring 240 for the four kings and queens, it is evident that he does not insist on the rule that there shall be at least one fresh card from the hand for every additional meld: because since that rule has been in force the meld

T. F. L. sends THE SUN a method of meiding the hand referred to by F. C. W., which would get 410 out of it. Diamonds are trumps and the player held the sequence, with the three other kings and queens. The meids are laid down in this order: Trump marriage, trump sequence, spade outen, pinochle: spade king, heart marriage, 80 kings, 60 queens: 410.

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for 80 and then names all but one queen. He then melds 60 queens and then lays down the second queen to the king that he did not mame the first lime claiming 20 more. Is this allowed? If the player melds 80 kings and then marries all but the king of spades, melding 60 queens with the spade queen, it is obvious that the king of spades on the table not having been declared in a marriage can be married to the second spade queen if the player holds it. One spade queen was used to meld 60 queens, the other to meld a marriage, so both

W. S. L. says: A takes a trick in two hand, and calls out, although he has no meld to make. B bets that after he has called out he must win one more trick. Is this correct? No. If A is out, the game is at an end. If he is

Auction Pinochle. A. L. says: A is the player, three men against him, each for himself. On one of A's leads D revokes. What is the penalty? Incidentally, A did not make good his bid. Does he go back, in spite of the revoke? The player in error loses his entire score for cards,

Rubicon Bezique. J. MeW wares to know the difference between rubicon beautifue and the ordinary game.

In rubicon four packs are shuffled together and each player tets nine cards instead of eight. The first marriage announced or scored makes the

## dispute the authority of the pious Ab-dullah, and giving vent to their feelings POEMS WORTH READING. n words started up the hill.

And there beneath the jasmine and the rose Entwined upon the trellis and the vine, They plight the troth no ending ever knows

No low, sweet accents greet him he's alone! Then the old lover, wrinkled, bent and gray.

Whither he sets his feet to roam

So they gazed and gazed till they both grew mad,

The Sons of Steam and Steel

From the Pall Mall Gasette.

They answer, as we call the roll, the Sons of Steam

for me," said the owner of Hades, after the salaams were completed and the cigarettes were passed.

"Yes," said Abdullah. "It has grieved me to feel that one of the Faithful has purphessed Hades and that it has grieved in the faithful has purphessed Hades and that it the faithful has it want to get back to the boy.

Naval Ratings: The Stoker From the Speaker.

From the New Orleans Times-Democrat.

Already the blinds are closed And the open door Swings wide for the folk to go Who shall come no more.

Chums.

There isn't much left when a fellow

I. P. S. asks the readers of THE SUN to help in identifying the author and the poem in which oc-curs the line. "Whose curtain never outward swings." Whittler's "Snow Bound" has this verse: Resolved that Smith the next twelve months

Private sayings was this quotation:
"Was ever feather so lightly blown to and
fro as this multitude?"

one in a group of public men said:

"Others, fine, sturdy and capable fellows,

"Nothing is so dreaded by them as the fickleness of public opinion. It is with them

estimates the wealth of the United States to be \$107,104,211,317, as follows: Real estate and improvements......

All other classes.... Two States exceed the \$10,000,000,000 mark.

to remark:
"What Republican with a sound heart in

Cabinet were reporters, William H. Taft and

Uncle Sam Morris, the gentle Republican spellbinder of Troy, N. Y., is said to have

Tuesday, January 1, the pure food law will go into effect. It was passed at the last ession of Congress and its administration has been placed in the hands of the Agricultural Department. The law provides for a staff of food inspectors, who will be selected according to civil service rules and appointed only after they have passed thorough examinations. While the Agricultural Department is charged with the administration of the law, the Treasury Department and the Department of Justice will take part in its

Joseph Medill Patterson, the young five millionaire Socialist, graduated from Yale in 1901, says it was the close observation of college society methods which induced him to accept socialism. He declares that the

chance in college elections. Republic: When Clemenceau, the new Prime Minister, first poked through pigeonholes of his department he found a document relating to certain weekly visits which he had paid to a mysterious person. supposed to be an enemy of the Government, with whom he spent an hour or so on each occasion. "My chiropodist," was the indorsement the French Premier scratched on the document as he poked it back into its

Much Law, Poor Case. From the Kansas City Times.

the opener had falled to fill. As long as the opener has five cards in his hand, he can stay in and bet all he wants to. If he is betting on a bobtail that is his business.

THE SUN quotes the exact words of its corre

D. A. McM. says: A lays down all four kings to the higher score. That is the rubicon.

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MUSICAL.

Wassili Safonoff

orrect, he wins; if he is in error, he loses. W. D. wants to know what the four kings and queens can be melded for in three hand, and if there is any difference between that and four hand. In three hand, the meld is worth 220. Same in

and the successful bidder still wins his game. Stuss. J. K. L. wants to know the rules for this game, and if there are any in print. Perhaps some reader of THE SUN can supply this. information.

rump. Sequence in plain suits counts 150, in trumps 250. Any combination which has been shown and scored may be broken up and reformed. If a player has four kings, he may play one away. add another and score 80 more. If the lower soons at the end of the deal is less than 1,000, it is all added